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SOURCE Sawt at-TurkistanANTI-COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN WESTERN TURKESTAN

[The July - August 1953 issue of the Arabic bimonthly periodical Sawt at-Turkistan, published in Egypt, contained an article translated from the Turkish which had appeared in Turkestan, a periodical edited in Istanbul by Mohammad Amin Bughra, former Governor-General of Eastern Turkestan. The article gave details of anti-Communist activities in Western Turkestan, highlights of which follow. Names followed by an asterisk are approximations from the Arabic.]

A society called Yashurun Uyushma (Secret Society) was formed last February near Tashkent to oppose Communism and to free Turkestan from the Soviet government. Since the members work underground, the Soviet secret police find it difficult to arrest them. Some of them, disguised as Communist officials, entered the office of Star Wahini\*, an important Communist official, and beat him so that he had to be sent to the hospital. They called Comrade Rozanov by telephone to the railroad police headquarters and killed him on the way. They then robbed his house. The Soviets threw all suspects into prison.

The daughter of Comrade Ibrahim, a well-known Communist in the Kirgiz SSR, was a student in the girls' school at Bashmak\* [probably Bashmachagovsk, 46 09N, 46 11E, or Bashmaknyy, 53 38N, 75 10E in the Kazakh SSR]. She committed suicide when the police came to arrest her for membership in the society.

The public prosecutor in Bashmak\* announced that two officers, Nakrasov\* and Yukabur\*, had been killed by members of the society in February.

When 22 of the collective farms in the region of Dzhambul [Kazakh SSR] were compelled to provide horses for the Soviet Army, their members began to flee to various districts.

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In January 1953, the Soviets arrested 8,000 men and women in Alma-Ata and Samai\*, putting the men into five concentration camps and the women into a sixth, all constructed in October 1953 [sic], near Ak Mulla. The arrested were engineers, physicians, actors, editors, and officials suspected of opposition of the Communists.

Since 1930, Moscow has prohibited the reading of books printed in Arabic script. A committee under the chairmanship of Blokhutin\* to purge the Communist Party in Turkestan learned that the Yashurun Uyushma were established in Merv, and that the youth of the Turkmen SSR had written by hand and distributed a pamphlet called The Voice of Turkmenistan, inciting the people to oppose the Communists and the Russians.

Some 40,000 people were conscripted by the Soviet government to finish the railroad line to the southeast of Turkestan from Rybach'ye near Lake Issyk [Issyk-Kul] to Kashgar, passing through Naryn, and a second line connecting Naryn and Dzhahal Abad with Fergana. At times these lines are at elevations of 3,000-3,500 meters above sea level. The project includes the construction of tunnels and 60 bridges between Rybach'ye and Naryn and roads connecting Naryn and Dzhahal Abad.

Special communication offices were built in Rybach'ye, Naryn, Baibiche, Uskend\*, and Dzhahal Abad, the Ltikurgan\* [possibly Taldy Kurgan or Kattakurgan] Canal, and the large canal in the Turkmen SSR which was constructed [sic] entirely by Turkmen slave labor.

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